

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An aggregated composition comprising (a) a polypeptide having transport function of VP22, and (b) an oligonucleotide or polypeptide, as a stable aggregate.

2. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

3. (Currently Amended) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is a ~~VP22 fragment comprising~~ comprises amino acid residues 159-301 of ~~VP22~~ the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 12.

4. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide comprises a circular plasmid.

5. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide comprises modified phosphorothioates linkages.

6. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 5, wherein the modified phosphodiester linkages comprise phosphorothioate linkages.

7. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is labeled with a detectable label.

8. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of: an antisense molecule, a ribozyme molecule, a chimeroplast, and a polynucleotide capable of binding a transcription factor.

9. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide encodes a protein or peptide.

10. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is a fusion protein comprising a non-VP22 peptide or protein.

11. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 10, wherein the non-VP22 polypeptide sequence is linked to the polypeptide having the transport function of VP22 by a cleavage-susceptible amino acid sequence.

12. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated to a glycoside.

13. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is coupled to a non-nucleotide molecule.

14. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the aggregate comprises polypeptide and nucleotide in a ratio of at least 1 to 1.

15. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide comprises about 10 bases.

16. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, which comprises particles of said aggregated composition having a particle size in the range of about 0.1 to about 5 microns.

17. (Original) An aggregated composition according to claim 1, wherein said polypeptide and said nucleotide are encapsulated in a liposome.

18. (Original) A method of making an aggregated composition according to claim 1

comprising, (a) mixing a polypeptide with the transport function of VP22, with the oligonucleotide or polynucleotide, and, (b) allowing the mixture obtained in step (a) to form aggregates.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the polypeptide is mixed with nucleotide in a ratio of at least 1 to 1 of polypeptide to nucleotide.

20. (Original) A method of delivering molecules to a cell *in vitro* comprising (a) contacting said cell with an aggregated composition according to claim 1.

21. (Currently Amended) A cell preparation which ~~ashas~~ been treated with an aggregated composition according to claim 1.

22. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the aggregates have a particle size of about 0.1 to about 5 microns.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 20, further~~ A method of delivering molecules to a cell *in vitro*, comprising

(a) contacting said cell with an aggregated composition comprising (1) a polypeptide having transport function of VP22, and (2) an oligonucleotide or polypeptide; and

(b) exposing the cell to light to promote disaggregation of the aggregated composition;

thereby delivering the oligonucleotide or polypeptide to the cell *in vitro*.